

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING ELEVATOR SAFETY

The Iowa Division of Labor Services wants to notify owners and operators of older, hydraulic elevators of the need to make a significant investment into safety. Hydraulic elevators installed prior to January 1, 1975, must upgrade their equipment to prevent the uncontrolled descent of the elevator car caused by the rapid release of hydraulic fluid in the event of a catastrophic failure.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers' code A17.1-2000, Rule 8.6.5.8, requires that all below ground hydraulic cylinders have a safety bulkhead, a plunger gripper, or safeties with conforming guide rails and fastenings. For elevators installed prior to January 1, 1975, the deadline to comply with this rule is July 1, 2011. Please plan now to install this important safety equipment. In the event that your facility has already been upgraded, the Division will accept documentation from the manufacturer attesting to this fact and no further action will be required.

A safety bulkhead, a plunger gripper, or safeties with conforming guide rails and fastenings are also required if your elevator was installed after January 1, 1975.